



Nico Conner introduces his new CD “Crioyo”

The word “crioyo” means authentic regional cooking, music or dance, and the new CD by steel pan artist Nico Conner carries on the tradition with a diverse selection of popular folkloric pieces amongst melodies by noted local composers.

On Thursday afternoon at Kildare’s Irish Pub in Oranjestad, Nico, joined by family and friends introduced his sixth CD with the popular Aruban tradition of a “Baptism.” Joining him for the ceremonial inauguration of “Crioyo” were the Madrinas, Cynthia Clarke and Imara Thomas, along with the Padrino and keyboardist for the CD, Michael Odor. Also taking part was executive producer and Nico’s father, John Connor.

Nico is a very popular performer on Aruba and regionally, and his latest effort is a welcome addition to a successful collection. Accompanying the introduction of “Crioyo” was a demonstration of folkloric dance by students of the Diane Antonette Dance School under the direction of Alydia Wever. In the spirit of the occasion, Kildare’s served authentic crioyo food of funchi, pan bollo (bread pudding) and bonchi berde to the gathering.

Nico also offered his gratitude to the individuals that made the new CD possible, in particular, Ivan Quandus on guitar and Eugene Jones on the percussion, along with Michael Odor, who then along with Nico performed a sampling of the collection.

Available at local CD shops, this lively collection of steel pan pieces epitomizes the lyrical music of the Caribbean, and is a wonderful background for any party, bringing back that feeling of island breezes swaying palms.